

genus known to me so well fills the bill; certainly not the plants in America masquerading as *E. glaucescens*, for they have two stigmas and the stems are not compressed.

My conclusion is that *Scirpus glaucescens* Willd. ex descr. (non herb?) or *ELEOCHARIS GLAUDESCENS* (Willd.) Schultes is *E. acuminata* (Muhl.) Nees (*E. compressa* Sulliv.).

PARKE, DAVIS & Co., Detroit, Mich.

WILLDENOW'S TYPE OF *SCIRPUS GLAUDESCENS*

M. L. FERNALD

WHEN Miss Brackett and I pointed out¹ that *Eleocharis glaucescens* (Willd.) Schultes had long been misunderstood in this country, we emphasized the fact that it was described by Willdenow as having 3 style-branches. We also published Gray's manuscript memorandum made upon studying the Willdenow type: "*glaucescens!* (spec. cult. but very poor) nothing to do with *S. tenuis*, but certainly *S. palustris!*" But we did not accept this identification primarily upon the authority of Gray, as might be inferred from Mr. Farwell's statement in the preceding article. Ascherson & Graebner, who certainly were so situated as to know what Willdenow had before him but who surely did not know of Gray's unpublished memorandum, had reached the same conclusion;² so had Richter,³ Rouy,⁴ Hegi,⁵ and various other competent European students. In order again to determine what Willdenow had, Mr. J. F. Macbride, of the Field Museum, when studying type-specimens at the Botanisches Museum at Berlin-Dahlem, was asked to examine the specimen. His reply follows:

"As the Willdenow specimen is very meager, so that I dared not disturb one of the two heads, I asked Dr. Mattfeld (Curator of the *Cyperaceae* here) to confirm my observation regarding the number of style-branches. There are two styles visible and these appear to be unbroken and certainly to have only *two* branches! The specimen had been cultivated in the Garden and Dr. Mattfeld suggests that owing to the spiral arrangement of the flowers Willdenow may have seen seemingly three style-branches as this can be a mistake easy to make from fresh material when one may overtop or overlie another."

¹ RHODORA, xxxi. 61, 74 (1929).

² Aschers. & Graebn. Synop. Mitteleurop. Fl. ii². 291 (1903).

³ Richter, Pl. Europ. i. 142 (1890).

⁴ Rouy, Fl. de France, xiii. 361 (1912).

⁵ Hegi, Ill. Fl. Mittel.-Eur. ii. 38 (1909).

The identity of the Willdenow specimen need scarcely be further doubted; and certainly it has not been uncommon for technical and comparatively insignificant plants to be misdescribed. Witness Linnaeus's description of *Scirpus geniculatus*, Sp. Pl. i. 48 (1753), "spica subglobosa," for a plant with an elongate-lanceolate or slenderly cylindric spike. Mr. Farwell finds Willdenow's description "quite applicable to *E. acuminata*," except for the character "*Culmus* . . . glauco-virescens." How about the "*Squamae* . . . superiores . . . obtusiusculae"? Muhlenburg's original description of *Scirpus acuminatus* said "squama . . . acuminata,"¹ from which character he obviously derived the specific name; and Britton, who for decades has studied the group, says "scales . . . acute or the lower obtusish."² Even if it be argued that the usually careful Willdenow described a plant different from the one preserved by him, it would be at least unfortunate to displace an established name by one about which there is obviously great doubt.

GRAY HERBARIUM.

NEW FORMS AND VARIETIES OF INDIANA PLANTS

PAUL C. STANDLEY

DURING the summer of 1929 there have been observed in and near the Indiana dunes, at the southern end of Lake Michigan, several color forms of plants which are worthy of record. These and two new varieties of *Coreopsis tripteris* are described and named below.

TRADESCANTIA REFLEXA Raf., f. **Mariae**, f. nov.—Petala prope basin alba, undique prope marginem lilacina.—This distinct color form of our common spiderwort was collected near Fowler, INDIANA, in the summer of 1929, and the plants are now growing in the Dune Forest Wild Flower Garden near Chesteton, Indiana.

Specimens have not been preserved for the herbarium, because the petals of *Tradescantia* deliquesce in drying so that it would be impossible to preserve their coloring. The form is named for Miss Mary Bremer, who obtained the plants.

TRADESCANTIA REFLEXA Raf., f. **Lesteri**, f. nov.—Petala intense coccineo-purpurea.—Collected near Tremont, Porter County, INDIANA, in the summer of 1929 by Mr. Lester A. Beatty.

The plants have been transplanted to the Dune Forest Garden

¹ Muhl. Gram. 27 (1817).

² Britton in Britton & Brown, Ill. Fl. ed. 2, i. 318 (1913).